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BA-2083

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**GRANITE FACTORY DWELLING** - 1844 - 1213-1215 Oella Avenue, Ellicott City vicinity. Duplex houses survive from Granite Factory complex started in 1844 between riverbank and southwest edge of Oella Avenue, the factory set parallel to these workers' tenements. The factory, a rival to the Union Manufacturing Company upstream, was wrecked by the July 24, 1868 flood when owned by Benjamin Deford & Company. The entire village was shown in the E. Sachse lithographs of 1854 and 1859. The houses, which survived the flood, passed to Union Manufacturing Company by leasehold in 1870 and to W.J. Dickey in 1887. The area, now called Granite Hill, was included in the Ellicotts Mills National Register historic district in 1976. Houses are of local granite, 2-½ stories, in vernacular, if not functional style. Owner: Charles L. Wagandt, c/o The Oella Company, 803 Oella Avenue. (These houses are substantially as they were when photographed by the WPA HABS team in 1936.)

BA- 2084

**GRANITE FACTORY DWELLING** - 1844 - 1211-1209 Oella Avenue, Ellicott City vicinity. Same background as BA 2083.

BA- 2085

**GRANITE FACTORY DWELLING** - 1844 - 1206-1204 Oella Avenue, Ellicott City vicinity. Same background as BA 2083.

BA- 2086

**GRANITE FACTORY DWELLING** - 1844 - 1202-1200 Oella Avenue, Ellicott City vicinity. Same background as BA 2083.

BA- 2087

**THISTLE FACTORY DWELLING** - c. 1828 - 2 River Road, Thistle-Ilchester vicinity. This double stone house perched on a terrace facing River Road with its second story rear providing access at grade level to Hilltop Road, is the last dwelling surviving in 1979-1980 of the row of cotton factory tenements photographed by the WPA HABS program in 1936. Thistle was a milltown founded in 1928 by the Morris Brothers. These houses were shown as a row of three as far back as the 1859 Sachse lithograph of the bird's eye view of the entire valley. The town was described as fresh and new in Charles Varle's 1833 View of Baltimore, a travel book. The mill (still standing, BA 144) converted to silk production in 1899, and in 1922 was acquired by Bartgis Brothers and switched to the manufacture of pasteboard for their carton-printing business. The plant continues in cardboard production, but the town has gradually fallen into disuse, battered by various floods. The other riverfront houses photographed as recently as 1965, have disappeared. The one surviving house is in a vernacular style, of fieldstone, with large inside-end chimneys, and gable-roofed. Immediately to the east is a Gothic revival communal spring house built of granite, still full of clean water in 1980. Gutted by fire in late 1980. Also marked "House No. 12" in crayon.

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